



Docket No.: 2091-0245P  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Kazuo SHIOTA et al.

Application No.: 09/954,964

Confirmation No.: 9017

Filed: September 19, 2001

Art Unit: 3624

For: NETWORK PHOTOGRAPH SERVICE  
SYSTEM

Examiner: D. S. Felten

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**(SUBMISSION AFTER FILING OF AN APPLICATION BUT BEFORE FINAL**  
**REJECTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE OR CONCURRENTLY WITH A RULE**  
**1.114 RCE APPLICATION)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

**I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION**

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on the PTO-SB08(s), attached hereto.

**II. COPIES**

10/18/2006 MAHMED1 00000077 09954964

01 FC:1806

180.00 0P

- ☒ a. Copies of cited U.S. patents and patent application publications are not included.  
Copies of foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are included.

☐ b. Some or all of the documents listed on the PTO-SB08 are not enclosed because they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should already be in the PTO file. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

☐ c. REFERENCES PREVIOUSLY CITED OR SUBMITTED - Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), consideration of information listed on the PTO-SB08 form(s) is requested since any patents, publications, or other information which are listed on the PTO-SB08 form(s) but for which copies are not enclosed herewith, were previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in one of the following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120:

U.S. Appl. No(s) and U.S. Filing Date

### III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE

(check at least one box)

☐ a. DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE - The patents, publications, or other information listed on the attached PTO SB08 are in the English language and therefore, do not require a statement of relevancy.

☐ b. DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE - A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows: **English Abstract provided for JP08095163, and JP08044856.**

☒ c. ENGLISH LANGUAGE SEARCH REPORT - An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(III)(A)(3).

☒ d. OTHER - The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration. **US 5,526,288 corresponds to EP0830010; GB2286944 corresponds to JP7-261279, which was previously cited in the IDS dated 3/19/04; US 5327265 & EP0649121 were previously cited in the IDS dated 9/19/01.**

IV. FEES (check one box)

☐ a. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing of a new patent application; therefore, no fee is required.

☐ b. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrent with the filing of a continuation-in-part, continuation, or divisional patent application; therefore, no fee is required.

☐ c. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)). No fee or statement is required.  
*(This section is not to be used with RCE's.)*

☐ d. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2)). No fee or statement is required.

☐ e. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114 (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4)). No fee or statement is required.

☐ f. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3)). No fee or statement is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and see the statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below, or, if no statement has been made, charge our deposit account for the fee as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

☒ g. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(1)) or before the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2)).

☒ No statement; therefore, a fee as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is attached.

or

☐ See the statement below. No fee is required.

V. STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

(check only one box)

The undersigned hereby states that:

☐ a. Each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 30 days prior to the filing of this IDS; or

☐ b. Each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or

☐ c. No item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the IDS.

☐ d. Some of the items of information were cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned states that each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby states that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

VI. PAYMENT OF FEES (check one box)

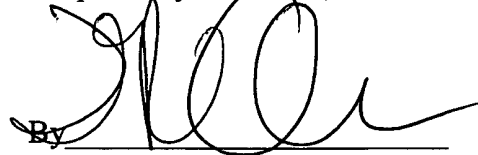
- ☒ The required fee is listed on the attached Fee Transmittal.
- ☐ No fee is required.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: October 17, 2006

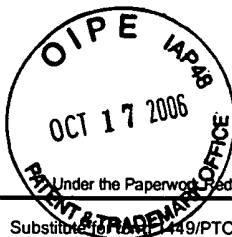
Respectfully submitted,



By  
D. Richard Anderson  
Registration No.: 40,439  
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP  
8110 Gatehouse Road  
Suite 100 East  
P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000  
Attorney for Applicant

Attachment(s):

- ☒ PTO-SB08  
☒ Documents  
☒ Foreign Search Report  
☒ Fee  
☐ Other:



PTO/SB/08A/B (09-06)  
Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

|   |   |    |   |                          |                          |
|---|---|----|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(Use as many sheets as necessary) |   |    |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                          |
|   |   |    |   | Application Number       | 09/954,964-Conf. #009017 |
|   |   |    |   | Filing Date              | September 19, 2001       |
|   |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Kazuo SHIOTA             |
|   |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | 3624                     |
|   |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | D. S. Felten             |
| Sheet   | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | 2091-0245P               |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |  |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                          | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
|                       | AA*                      | US-5,327,265-A                           | 07-05-1994                     | McDonald et al.                                    |   |
|                       | AB*                      | US-5,477,353-A                           | 12-19-1995                     | Yamasaki   |   |
|                       | AC*                      | US-5,926,288-A                           | 07-20-1999                     | Dellert et al.                                     |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |                           |  |                                   |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   |  | Publication<br>Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> | Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                   |  |   |                |
|                          | BA                       | JP                        | 08095163-A   | 04-12-1996                        | Haneda Norihisa                                    |   | ✓              |
|                          | BB                       | JP                        | 08044856-A   | 02-16-1996                        | Haneda Norihisa                                    |   | ✓              |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. \* CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an single asterisk (\*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials            | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|                                 |                          |   |                |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|



17M

3624

PTO/SB/17 (07-06)

Approved for use through 01/31/2007. OMB 0651-0032  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the American Invention Promotion Act of 1995, no person are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

|   |             |                          |                          |
|---|-------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Effective on 12/08/2004.</b><br><b>Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).</b><br><b>FEE TRANSMITTAL</b><br><b>For FY 2005</b> |             | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27  |             | Application Number       | 09/954,964-Conf. #009017 |
|   |             | Filing Date              | September 19, 2001       |
|   |             | First Named Inventor     | Kazuo SHIOTA             |
|   |             | Examiner Name            | D. S. Felten             |
|   |             | Art Unit                 | 3624                     |
| TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT   | (\$) 180.00 | Attorney Docket No.      | 2091-0245P               |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>METHOD OF PAYMENT</b> (check all that apply)  |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check  | <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order   | <input type="checkbox"/> None   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please identify): _____  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deposit Account    Deposit Account Number: <u>02-2448</u> Deposit Account Name: <u>Birch, Stewart, Kolasch &amp; Birch, LLP</u> |   |
| For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below   | <input type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayment of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17                                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayments                       |

|   |                     |   |                    |                      |                                      |                       |                       |
|---|---------------------|---|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>FEE CALCULATION</b>  |                     |   |                    |                      |                                      |                       |                       |
| <b>1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES</b>  |                     |   |                    |                      |                                      |                       |                       |
|   | <b>FILING FEES</b>  |   | <b>SEARCH FEES</b> |                      | <b>EXAMINATION FEES</b>              |                       |                       |
|   |                     | <b>Small Entity</b>                                     |                    | <b>Small Entity</b>  |                                      | <b>Small Entity</b>   |                       |
| <b>Application Type</b>   | <b>Fee (\$)</b>     | <b>Fee (\$)</b>   | <b>Fee (\$)</b>    | <b>Fee (\$)</b>      | <b>Fee (\$)</b>                      | <b>Fee (\$)</b>       | <b>Fees Paid (\$)</b> |
| Utility   | 300                 | 150   | 500                | 250                  | 200                                  | 100                   |                       |
| Design  | 200                 | 100   | 100                | 50                   | 130                                  | 65                    |                       |
| Plant   | 200                 | 100   | 300                | 150                  | 160                                  | 80                    |                       |
| Reissue   | 300                 | 150   | 500                | 250                  | 600                                  | 300                   |                       |
| Provisional   | 200                 | 100   | 0                  | 0                    | 0                                    | 0                     |                       |
| <b>2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES</b>   |                     |   |                    |                      |                                      |                       |                       |
| <b>Fee Description</b>  |                     |   |                    |                      |                                      | <b>Small Entity</b>   |                       |
|   |                     |   |                    |                      |                                      | <b>Fee (\$)</b>       | <b>Fee (\$)</b>       |
| Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)   |                     |   |                    |                      |                                      | 50                    | 25                    |
| Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)  |                     |   |                    |                      |                                      | 200                   | 100                   |
| Multiple dependent claims   |                     |   |                    |                      |                                      | 360                   | 180                   |
| <b>Total Claims</b>   |                     | <b>Extra Claims</b>                                     | <b>Fee (\$)</b>    | <b>Fee Paid (\$)</b> | <b>Multiple Dependent Claims</b>     |                       |                       |
| _____ - 20 = _____  |                     | x _____   | = _____            |                      | <b>Fee (\$)</b> <b>Fee Paid (\$)</b> |                       |                       |
| HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.   |                     |   |                    |                      |                                      |                       |                       |
| <b>Indep. Claims</b>  |                     | <b>Extra Claims</b>                                     | <b>Fee (\$)</b>    | <b>Fee Paid (\$)</b> |                                      |                       |                       |
| _____ - 3 = _____   |                     | x _____   | = _____            |                      |                                      |                       |                       |
| HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3.  |                     |   |                    |                      |                                      |                       |                       |
| <b>3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE</b>  |                     |   |                    |                      |                                      |                       |                       |
| If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s). |                     |   |                    |                      |                                      |                       |                       |
| <b>Total Sheets</b>   | <b>Extra Sheets</b> | <b>Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof</b> |                    | <b>Fee (\$)</b>      | <b>Fee Paid (\$)</b>                 |                       |                       |
| _____ - 100 = _____   | /50                 | _____ (round up to a whole number) x _____              |                    | = _____              |                                      |                       |                       |
| <b>4. OTHER FEE(S)</b>  |                     |   |                    |                      |                                      |                       |                       |
| Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)   |                     |   |                    |                      |                                      | <b>Fees Paid (\$)</b> |                       |
| Other (e.g., late filing surcharge) 1806 Submission of an Information Disclosure Statement  |                     |   |                    |                      |                                      | 180.00                |                       |

|                     |                     |                                   |                  |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>SUBMITTED BY</b> |                     |                                   |                  |
| Signature           |                     | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 40,439           |
| Name (Print/Type)   | D. Richard Anderson | Telephone                         | (703) 205-8035   |
|                     |                     | Date                              | October 17, 2006 |